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PROPOSED REGIONAL TECHNICAL

ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

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This report alerts U.S. firms to **US\$ 3.24 million** in new, potential procurement of consulting services under the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) technical assistance (TA) grant programs. Opportunities are reported for various ADB developing member countries in Asia and the Pacific. From January to June 2005, U.S. firms, including many small consulting firms, succeeded in winning US\$27.129 million ADB-funded national technical assistance contracts out of a total ADB-financed consulting budget of US\$195.209 million.

The ADB selects a consultant for a TA grant based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's website (www.adb.org); afterward it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. Robert S. Robertson, Director, Consulting Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize similar project experience in the country or in a similar geographic area rather than present a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consulting firms must register on the ADB's DACON (Data on Consulting Firms) system or, for individual consultants, on the DICON (Data on Individual Consultants) system; otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

ADB's DACON (http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dacon.asp) is a database of firms and other organizations from the ADB's member countries that are qualified to provide consulting services for ADB projects. The DACON contains information on the experience and capacity of the firms and organizations. ADB requires firms or organizations to register on the DACON so that the ADB can consider them for short-listing for a technical assistance project. The term "firm or organization" covers all sources of consultants, such as consulting firms, government agencies, public sector organizations, national and international institutions and non-government organizations.

The DICON (http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dicon.asp) system contains the names of persons who are citizens of ADB's member countries; are at the forefront of their respective fields; and may be practicing consultants or employees whose organizations are prepared to release them for short periods to serve ADB; or retired persons with special experience who are still active.

Firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. mailing address for the U.S. Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB, Attention: Frank Foster, Senior Commercial Officer, PSC 500 Box 33, FPO AP 96515-1000, or to the same office at its international mailing address: 25th Floor Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1226; Phone: (63-2) 887-1345; Fax: (63-2) 887-1164; E-mail: mail.doc.gov. Information about these projects are likewise available on our website at http://www.buyusa.gov/adb. This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities.

The projects listed in this report are now being actively processed by the ADB. For more information on these projects, the name of the ADB project officer is indicated in the project brief. The U.S Commercial Service Liaison Office is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

The following technical assistance projects are reprinted with permission from the Asian Development Bank, from the ADB Website (http://www.adb.org) and appeared for the first time in December 2005. For more information on development in Asia and the Pacific, see http://www.adb.org.

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT JANUARY 2006

A. Project Name : Workshop on Proposed South Asian Association for

Regional Cooperation Development Fund

Project No. : REG 39661-01 Executing Agency : To be determined. TA Amount : US\$ 150,000.00

Activity Type : Training

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance (TA) will enhance the awareness of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) of the operations, governance, and sustainability of development in finance instruments by supporting a three-day workshop in Kathmandu. The workshop will provide a venue for participants to analyze options for structure, operating modalities, funding mechanisms, and governance of SAARC Development Fund (SDF); compilation and dissemination of workshop findings and will help prepare measures for the scheduled meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers in 2nd quarter 2006.

Consulting Services: ADB will engage one international development finance specialist for a total of 2.5 person-months and one domestic workshop management for a total of 3 person-months. ADB will also engage 8-10 resource persons from other regions and international financial institutions on various subjects in development finance to disseminate international best practices during the workshop.

Project Processing Stage: For the President's Consideration: 15 December 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of international and domestic consultants is expected to take place in early January 2006.

Project Officer: Chia-Hsin Hu

Governance, Finance, and Trade Division

South Asia Department Tel.: (63-2) 632-6637 Email: chhu@adb.org

B. Project Name : 2006-2007 Regional Seminars on Anticorruption

Project No. : REG 39644-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

Contact: Renadi Budiman

Address: No. 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

Tel. No.: (632) 632-4054 Fax. No.: (632) 636-2152

E-mail: renadibudiman@adb.org

TA Amount : US\$ 300,000.00

Activity Type : Training

Objectives and Scope:

(1) To increase borrowers/executing agencies' awareness of and compliance with ADB Anticorruption Policy and procedures; (2) To enhance the capacity of borrowers/executing agencies to detect and prevent fraud and corruption on ADB-financed projects; and (3) To enable the borrowers/executing agencies to transfer knowledge by encouraging participants to share their knowledge and resource materials with other key officials in their countries.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: Requirements for consulting services to completed during Fact-finding Mission.

Project Officer: Renadi Budiman

Integrity Division Tel.: (63-2) 632-4054

Email: renadibudiman@adb.org

C. Project Name : Strengthening Epidemiological Surveillance and

Response for Communicable Diseases in Indonesia,

Malaysia, and Philippines

Project No. : REG 39068-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 1,200,000.00

Activity Type : Others

Objectives and Scope:

The goal of the technical assistance (TA) is to help support the three countries of the Sub-region to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to reduce mortality and morbidity due to communicable diseases. The impact of the Project should contribute to an improved and integrated national disease surveillance and preparedness system in each of the three countries; a comprehensive system for investigation, case management, and mitigation at local, national and sub-regional levels; an improved information and communication mechanism; and supportive national policies for CDC. The TA's purposes are to (i) strengthen disease surveillance systems for early detection and response (including prevention); (ii) help develop national capacity to respond to an outbreak; and (iii) harmonize national efforts to promote a sub-regional collaboration mechanism for CDC and the monitoring, containment, and prevention of outbreaks.

Consulting Services: A project management and consulting firm will be engaged by ADB. The firm is encouraged to associate with local firm(s) to ensure proper

management of local activities and contracts in each of the three countries. The firm will be responsible for appropriate oversight and reporting on activities budgeted at about \$700,000. The qualifications and capability of the firm (and its associated firms) to perform sustained contract management support for a number of varied activities in each of the three countries for the duration of the TA will be a key determinant for consultants' shortlisting and selection. Approximately 12 person-months of international and 60 person-months of domestic consultant services will be required in the fields of (i) project management and implementation, (ii) epidemiological surveillance and response (ESR) systems, (iii) health systems management, and (iv) information technology (IT) systems integration and geographic information system database and website development. The consulting firm will procure through competitive bidding the services of an IT firm to develop a portal for subregional epidemiological profile and purchase and installation of software and training materials. In addition to the provision of consultants, the firm will undertake logistical arrangements for training, testing and simulation exercises, workshops, secondment programs, and an international conference. The firm will designate a project administration coordinator based at one of its offices, preferably in one of the three countries, to coordinate with the respective implementing agencies and other government agencies and local World Health Organization (WHO) offices in each country. Approximately 3 person-months equivalent of consulting services will be provided by one or more experts of the project management and consulting firm (and its associated firms) to undertake all project management, implementation, contracting, contract management and administration, purchasing, back-office, and related activities. This would include contracting for the main IT services, software and equipment, and the procurement or subcontracting of services, equipment, case studies, materials, and other activities under proposals developed by the implementing agencies with the assistance of the consultant team and WHO.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Completed: 21 November 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: The consulting firm is strongly encouraged to associate with local firms and will be engaged in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for the engagement of domestic consultants.

Project Officer: Richard S. Ondrik

Social Sectors Division Southeast Asia Department Tel.: (63-2) 632-5788 Email: rondrik@adb.org

D. Project Name : Regional Road Funding and Management in Central

Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC)

Countries

Project No. : REG 39650-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 600,000.00

Activity Type : Study

Objectives and Scope:

The goal of the proposed RETA is to develop an integrated and efficient regional transport system providing links within CAREC countries, enhancing access to large markets, reducing transport costs, improving transport services, and facilitating cross-border and transit traffic in the region and with neighboring regions to promote sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction. The purposes are to improve funding and management of regional roads in CAREC countries to ensure that the regional road network is properly maintained to serve their economic purposes.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Beginning of Fact-finding Mission: March 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Requirements for consulting services to be completed during Fact-finding Mission.

Project Officer : Natasha Davis

Transport and Communications Division

East and Central Asia Department

Tel.: (63-2) 632-5463 Email: <u>ndavis@adb.org</u>

E. Project Name : Establishment of Regional Knowledge Hubs

Project No. : REG 39201-01

Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank

TA Amount : US\$ 990,000.00

Activity Type : Research

Objectives and Scope:

The main purpose of this technical assistance (TA) is to mainstream new concepts in innovation, science, technology, management development, and related fields in and for the region and provide decision makers and the development community with up-to-date knowledge products tailored to client and regional needs. The establishment of knowledge hubs has the potential to have a crosscutting impact on regional knowledge and information exchange and sharing on identified areas. The creation of knowledge hubs will help strengthen ties among leading intellectuals and officials around the region, and will aid the long-term harmonization of basic research and technology information exchange around the region and help increase understanding and awareness in emerging sectoral and thematic trends.

Consulting Services: International Consultants (30 person-months); domestic (35 person-months) Expertise in knowledge transfer capturing techniques, design and

develop in-depth knowledge products and services that the match the needs identified in the region DMCs and ADB.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Meeting to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment will take place in April 2006.

Project Officer: Daan Boom

Knowledge Management Center

Tel.: (63-2) 632-5260 Email: <u>dboom@adb.org</u>